

WHOM SHALL WE HEAR— MOSES, CHRIST, OR MRS. WHITE?

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I desire to direct your attention to some New Testament Scriptures. Before doing so, it is well to know who shall be heard. I believe Christ is our supreme authority. Moses gave way to Christ. Mrs. White is a fraud, for which statement the proof will be given.

Christ is the Son of God. Matt. 3:17; Rom. 1:4; John 3:16. The Son of Abraham. Matt. 1:1. See Gen. 22:18; Gal. 3:6. The Son of David. Matt. 1:1. He is never called the Son of Moses. The covenants made with Abraham and David were oath-bound covenants, and were to focus in Christ their Son, human and kingly, as well as in the Son of God the divine one.

Let us see what Moses himself says about the matter. "The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken." The Lord told Moses this: "I will raise them up a prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him." Deut. 18:15-19. Notice two facts. God would raise up a prophet to take Moses' place, and God would give him words to say. That prophet was Christ. "For I came down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him that sent me." John 6:38. "The word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me." John 14:24.

Moses not only foretold this prophet, but actually gave way for him on the eve of the new dispensation, on the mount of transfiguration "there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him." Out of the cloud a voice was heard: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." The three disciples touched by Jesus, lifted up their eyes, and "they saw no man, save Jesus only." Matt. 17:8. Moses had disappeared. Grace was to take the place of law, and Christ was to be heard as supreme. If Moses himself gave way for Christ, it is folly for me to make Moses supreme. Let us honor the Son: "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: that all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father." John 5:22, 23.

Christ being supreme the commands of the New Testament pertaining to the salvation of men are the commands of Christ. In that wonderful sermon on the mount, he says: "Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least command-

ments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven; but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 5:19. He has reference here to his own commands, for he says at the close of this sermon: "Therefore, whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock, etc. Matt. 7:24-27. "These sayings of mine." These are the sayings that are to test us.

It is true he said: "Think not that I am come to destroy the law or the prophets: I am not come to destroy but to fulfill." Matt. 5:17, 18. He simply gives his hearers to understand that while they were to hear his commands in the kingdom, he was to fulfill to the letter the law of Moses that pointed to him, after speaking of these commands he says: "For I say unto you that except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven." V. 20. The kingdom of heaven is contrasted with the law of Moses, and while he would fulfill the one he was proclaiming the other.

He did fulfill the law. After his resurrection he said to the two on the way to Emmaus: "Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?" And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself. . . . And he said unto them, "These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the Psalms, concerning me. . . . Thus it is written and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations." Luke 24:26, 27; 44:46, 47.

1. He said he would fulfill the law of Moses 2. He did fulfill the law, and prophets, and Psalms. 3. All nations should have the benefit. Now he touches that covenant with Abraham in whose seed all nations were to have a blessing, henceforth, his commands are the commands to which we are to say, Amen.

"If ye keep my commandments ye shall abide in my love." John 15:10. "If ye love me keep my commandments." John 14:15. "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." John 15:14. "These sayings of mine," are the sayings that form our law, the royal law.

Having all power in heaven and earth, he sent forth his disciples to teach all nations: "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." Matt. 28:18-20. Those disciples did so teach, and were unanimous in teaching that Christ was supreme, and herein is a lesson.

Rev. Andrew Gray, in "Rays of Truth" for November '94, page 33, quotes from Little's Reasons, as follows: "If at the battle of Waterloo, Napoleon had been known to summon twelve generals to head quarters to receive instructions from him, and forthwith the twelve generals, in all parts of the battle field had begun and carried out a definite plan of concerted action, who would doubt that *that* action was what the great leader had commanded. Behold then, in the doings of the apostles, and in the order and worship of the early church on the first day of the week, the mandates of the church's head, given during those Forty Days!"

Before closing allow me to call your attention to Rev. 22:14. "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." This passage is applied to the ten commands given on Sinai, and the position taken that keep the seventh day Sabbath is essential to entering heaven. To whose commands has John reference. Certainly to the commands of Christ. Read the preceding verse, the 13th. "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last." Read verses 5, 6, 7, of chapter 21, and you find Alpha and Omega to be Christ. John says: "Blessed are they that do his commands." In his Epistle he teaches the same fact. I John 2:1-5.

Christ is supreme. His word is to be our guide, and on his promises we rest our salvation, and he has never connected our salvation with seventh day Sabbath keeping.

WE are not writing in the sand. The tide does not wash it out. We are not painting our pictures on the canvas, and with a brush, so that we can erase the error of yesterday, or overlay it with another color to-day. We are writing our lives with a chisel on the marble and every time we strike a blow we leave a mark that is indelible.—*Lyman Abbott, D. D.*

It is the man who is least willing to practice, who finds the most fault with the preaching.

WE can only do our best when we are sure we are right.